In addition, the investment in Central Public Enterprises established earlier to 1967 such as Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Madras Refineries Ltd., Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., BHEL's Tiruchy units etc. has also shown substantial increase. As on 31-3-1967 the total investment of Central Public Enterprises in Tamil Nadu was Rs. 198.4 crores whereas as on 31-3-1985, the amount is Rs. 2548.86 crores.

Agency for technological upgradation of small scale industries

1192. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a technology development agency to provide service for modernisation and technological upgradation of the small scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, by when the proposed agency is likely to be set up; and

(c) what are the aims and objects of the proposed development agency and to what extent the small sector industries will be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The shape, content and coverage of the Technology Development Cell have not been finalised.

Sick Units

1195. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of large, medium and small scale industries which were sick till June, 1986;

(b) the amount of money blocked in these units;

(c) the number of units financed by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India and Industrial Development Bank of India which have turned sick; and

(d) the number of workers affected by the sickness of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The details regarding the number of sick units as well as the amount outstanding against them, are given below:—

(Rs. crores)

	No. of units	Amount outstanding
Large units	597	2655·39
Medium units	1181	195·13
SSI units	97890	954·65
TOTAL :	99668	3805·17

The statistics have been collected from the latest report of the R.B.I. which covers the period ending June, 1985.

(c) and (d) Information on units financed by IFCI and IDBI as well as information regarding the number of workers affected by the sickness of the units assisted by them are not centrally maintained in this Ministry.

Vacancies of Judges in Karnataka High Court

1194. SHRI D.B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state how many vacancies of judges are there in the Karnataka High Court and since when these vacancies are lying unfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Against the sanctioned strength of 24 Judges, there

are at present 3 vacancies in the Karnataka High Court which arose on the following dates:—

Sl. No.	Date
1.	14-11-1984
2.	24-10-1985
3.	18-12-1985

It has also been agreed in principle to create 4 new posts of Judges and 2 new posts of Additional Judges in the High Court.

Polyester Staple Fibre Cost Study by BICP

1195. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has completed the Polyester Staple Fibre Cost Study;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to implement the recommendations of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Public dial STD facilities

1196. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1436 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th March, 1986 and state;

(a) whether there is public dial facility in all the towns of Kerala State which have STD;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to extend pubilc dialling facility in all the STD linked towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. Out of 43 towns having STD facility in Kerala State only 23 towns have STD Public Telephones.

(b) STD Public Telephones are not sanctioned as a matter of policy at all stations having STD facility. They are provided subject to technical feasibility especially with regard to metering and expected use.

(c) At present STD Public Telephones can be only from Departmental Offices like Telegraph Offices and exchanges because charges are to be collected by an attendant in accordance with a meter reading. Not every where can this meter be provided due to operating technical limitation.

Coin-operated STD Public Telephones are being planned. They may be available in large quantities in the later half of the 7th Plan (1985—1990).

Production of PTA and DMT for the manufacture of polyester

1197. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that PTA is considered as more efficient and more economical raw-material for Polyester Filament Yarn/Polyester Staple Fibre as against Dimethyl Terephthalate;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to stop any further increase in the capacity of DMT production in India; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Dimethyl Terephthalate (DMT) and Purified Terephthalate (PTA)